

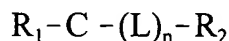
FLUORESCENT BOMBESIN-LIKE PEPTIDES

Abstract of the Invention

Light emitting compounds of the formula:

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X



where R_1 is a light-emitting moiety, R_2 is a bombesin-like peptide and fragment, derivative or analog thereof and L is a linker moiety, which may be present or absent. The peptide is linked at a first amino acid position to (C-X) which, in turn, is selected from the group including C=O, C=S, CH(OH), C=C=O, C=NH, CH₂, CH(OR), CH(NR), CH(R), CR₃R₄, and C(OR₃)OR₄ where R, R₃, and R₄ are alkyl moieties or substituted alkyl moieties. Optionally the compound may include a linker moiety between the peptide and the C-X binding group. Preferably, the compound exhibits substantial biological activity in the presence of receptors having affinities for bombesin-like peptides.

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